CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub a1

1. A computer implemented method for presenting information, the method comprising:

providing at least one database comprising a plurality of data models, each of said data models containing a representation of data in a space and time relationship; and

presenting at least one selected data model such that the information can be viewed based on spatial relationships or time relationships.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a plurality of links between two or more of the data models, the links attached at related events located on either side of the linked data models, and presenting selected data models such that the information can be viewed based on link relationships.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising providing a link model for each of said links, the link model providing an underlying reason for the existence of the link.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a user interface so that a user can selectively access and manipulate the presentation of the data models.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the data model is for a historical event.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the data model is for a person.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the data model is for a geographic location.

8. A computer implemented method for modifying an existing data model, the method comprising:

creating a database of events and sub-events, each event pertaining to the existing data model;

connecting the events in a space and time relationship to build a modified data model; and

linking the modified data model to other data models through one of the events to add specific context to links between the data models.

9. A computer implemented method for accessing and viewing information contained within at least one data model, the data model containing a representation of data in a space and time relationship and links to related data models, the method comprising:

selecting said data model for retrieval from a database;

viewing said data model based on spatial relationships or time relationships; and

selecting at least one linked data model for viewing.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein selecting and viewing said data model comprises selecting a plurality of said data models for retrieval and viewing.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising requesting a link model for the linked data model, the link model containing information about the relationship between the linked data models.

12. The method of claim 9 further comprising sending a query to the database to find an event in the data model.

13. The method of claim 9 further comprising retrieving a hierarchical representation of a plurality of said data models.

14. A computer program product for representing data, comprising:

computer code that provides at least one database comprising a plurality of data models, each of said data models containing a representation of data in a space and time relationship, and being linked to other data models in a hierarchical relationship via link models;

computer code that presents at least one of the data models such that information can be viewed based on spatial relationships, time relationships, or hierarchical relationships; and

a computer readable medium that stores the computer code.

15. The computer program product of claim 14 the computer code that presents the data models is configured such that information can be viewed based on any combination of the spatial relationships, time relationships, or hierarchical relationships.

16. The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the computer readable medium is selected from the group consisting of CD-ROM, floppy disk, tape, flash memory, system memory, hard drive, and data signal embodied in a carrier wave.

17. A computer implemented method for creating a data model, the method comprising:

creating a database of events, each event having a common theme;

connecting the events in a space and time relationship to form a data model;

linking the data model to other data models based on at least one common event in each of the data models.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising assigning a link model to each of the links, the link model providing additional detail on the reason for the existence of the link.

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